



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

BUFFALO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

1776 NIAGARA STREET

BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14207-3199

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Environmental Analysis Team

June 5, 2001

SUBJECT: Section 14 Emergency Streambank Protection Project – Conneaut Creek at Interstate Route-90, Kingsville Township, Ashtabula County, Ohio.

### SCOPING FACT SHEET

1. Introduction - Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that Federal agencies initiate "an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action." The purpose of this fact sheet is to disseminate information on proposed United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Buffalo District activities and to elicit the concerns of potentially affected parties.

2. Project Location and Conditions - The project site is located along Conneaut Creek, adjacent to the eastbound Interstate Route – 90 (I-90) Bridge (south lanes) in Kingsville Township, Ashtabula County, Ohio (Figures 1 and 2). Erosion has occurred adjacent to the bridge abutments, along the manmade earth embankment positioned on the west side of Conneaut Creek (Figure 3). This embankment was originally constructed as a 1V:2H grass-covered sideslope, which drains surface water from the south lanes of I-90. Jersey barriers were subsequently installed along the toe of the eroded embankment as a temporary solution to the erosion problem. While this temporary protection has lessened the erosion of the embankment, it is not a permanent solution and erosion continues along the embankment. Continued erosion in this area could compromise the stability of the I-90 Bridge and its associated abutments. Potential bridge failure would be catastrophic. I-90 is an extremely heavily traveled roadway which connects much of the northeastern United States, including Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York.

3. Proposed Project Description – The proposed design consists of placing a geotextile fabric on top of the existing eroded embankment, followed by a free-draining granular stone fill and 24-inch riprap placed along the base. The granular stone fill would be placed on a 1V:2H sideslope to fill the void created by the erosion of the embankment. At the base of the slope, the 24-inch riprap would be placed from the channel bottom up the sideslope approximately eleven feet, also on a 1V:2H sideslope (Figure 4). The riprap would be keyed into the creek bed along the toe of the revetment to prevent any slippage of the toe and stone fill materials. The length of the protection would be approximately 300 feet, and would transition into another protection project being constructed along the bridge abutments by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The ODOT project, scheduled to proceed in the Spring of 2002, involves re-constructing the existing bridge, and installing gabions (stone-filled wire baskets) along the bridge abutments for additional protection and stability. Catch basins would be installed along the I-90 in conjunction with the ODOT project, which will prevent stormwater run-off from eroding the sideslope.

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4. Alternatives - Alternative plans that have been considered to address the erosion problem along Conneaut Creek include:

- a. *Non-structural Alternative*: This alternative would involve relocating and/or rerouting the I-90 Bridge, to move it away from Conneaut Creek and its associated erosive forces. This alternative was not selected as it would incur exorbitant costs and extensive construction.
- b. *“No-Action” Alternative*: The “No Action” (Without Project Conditions) alternative was also considered during the planning process, but was not selected. Under this alternative, the Federal government would do nothing to protect the embankment and bridge. This alternative was not selected as it would allow continued erosion along the embankment and eventual failure of the I-90 Bridge.

5. Potential Impacts - Table 1 presents a general assessment of the environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

6. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance - In accordance with 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 230 and Engineer Regulation 200-2-2 (Procedures for Implementing NEPA), USACE will complete an environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential effects of the proposed project and any alternatives. If, after this evaluation, it is concluded that the proposed project would have no significant environmental impacts and an environmental impact statement is not required, the District Commander will sign a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

In addition to NEPA, the proposed project must also comply with other applicable and relevant Federal laws. Table 2 presents a comprehensive list of environmental protection statutes, executive orders, etc. Therefore, an additional intent of this fact sheet is to disseminate pertinent project information to meet all applicable coordination/consultation requirements under their provisions. Table 3 lists the agencies, departments, and other parties contacted for coordination.

7. Clean Water Act – In compliance with the Clean Water Act, a Section 404(a) Public Notice and Section 404(b)(1) Evaluation would be completed for the project. Section 401 State Water Quality Certification would be requested from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, in accordance with the Act.

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8. Point of Contact:

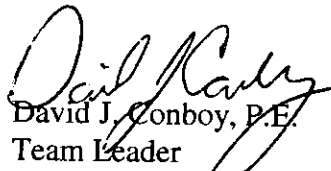
Jay M. Miller  
Biologist  
Environmental Analysis Team

Telephone No.: 716-879-4394  
Fax No.: 716-879-4355  
E-mail: james.m.miller@lrb01.usace.army.mil

You may review the preceding information and present any comments or recommendations in writing to Mr. Miller's attention at the following address:

Department of the Army  
Buffalo District, Corps of Engineers  
1776 Niagara Street  
Buffalo, NY 14207-3199

Please provide any comments/recommendations (if any) within 30 days from the date marked on this letter. Thank you for your involvement in this project.

  
David J. Conboy, P.E.  
Team Leader  
Environmental Analysis Team

Attachments

Table 1. Environmental Impact Assessment.

PARAMETER	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
Noise	Short-term localized increase due to the operation of construction equipment.
Displacement of People	No effect.
Aesthetic Values	Short-term degradation during construction operations due to the presence of construction equipment.
Cultural Resources	No effect.
Community Cohesion	I-90 would be preserved as a route for social interaction.
Environmental Justice	The proposed project would not disproportionately affect minority or low-income populations.
Desirable Community Growth	No effect.
Health and Safety	Short-term localized adverse effect due to the typical hazards associated with construction projects. Long-term positive effect as project would avoid possible bridge failure.
Tax Revenues	No effect.
Property Values	No effect.
Public Facilities & Services	Protection of bridge as thoroughfare for emergency vehicles.
Desirable Regional Growth	No effect.
Employment/Labor Force	Possible increase in employment opportunities during construction operations.
Business & Industrial Activities	No disruption to business. Transport of goods and services would be protected.
Displacement of Farms	No effect.
Man-Made Resources	No effect.
Natural Resources	Consumption of fuel during project construction. Commitments of quarry-run stone and stone fill for life of the project.
Air Quality	Short-term, localized release of pollutants from construction vehicles/equipment.
Water Quality	Short-term, localized increase in creek turbidity during project construction.
Fish & Wildlife Resources	Short-term avoidance of project area by fish and wildlife during construction activities. Increased benthic and fish habitat in creek along submerged large stone units.
Vegetation	Minor loss of grass area from placement of stone units along embankment.
Threatened or Endangered Species	No effect.
Wetlands	No effect.

**Table 2:** Federal Environmental Protection Laws, Orders, Policies.

**1. PUBLIC LAWS**

- (a) Abandoned Shipwreck Act of 1987, 43 USC 2101-2106.
- (b) American Folklife Preservation Act, P.L. 94-201; 20 USC 2101, *et seq.*
- (c) American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 USC 1996.
- (d) Anadromous Fish Conservation Act, P.L. 89-304; 16 USC 757, *et seq.*
- (e) Antiquities Act of 1906, P.L. 59-209; 16 USC 431, *et seq.*
- (f) Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act, P.L. 93-291; 16 USC 469, *et seq.* (Also known as the Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960, as amended; P.L. 93-291, as amended; the Moss-Bennett Act; and the Preservation of Historic and Archaeological Data Act of 1974.)
- (g) Bald Eagle Act; 16 USC 668.
- (h) Clean Air Act, as amended; P.L. 91-604; 42 USC 1857h-7, *et seq.*
- (i) Clean Water Act, P.L. 92-500; 33 USC 1251, *et seq.* (Also known as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and P.L. 92-500, as amended.)
- (j) Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, P.L. 92-583; 16 USC 1451, *et seq.*
- (k) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, 42 USC 9601, *et seq.*
- (l) Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, P.L. 93-205; 16 USC 1531, *et seq.*
- (m) Estuary Protection Act, P.L. 90-454; 16 USC 1221, *et seq.*
- (n) Farmland Protection Act (Subtitle I of Title XV of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981), 7 USC 4201.
- (o) Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act, P.L. 92-516; 7 USC 136.
- (p) Federal Water Project Recreation Act, as amended, P.L. 89-72; 16 USC 460-1(12), *et seq.*
- (q) Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, as amended, P.L. 85-624; 16 USC 661, *et seq.*
- (r) Flood Control Act of 1944, 16 USC 460d *et seq.*
- (s) Historic Sites of 1935, as amended, P.L. 74-292; 16 USC 461, *et seq.*
- (t) Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, P.L. 88-578; 16 USC 460/-460/-11, *et seq.*
- (u) Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, P.L. 92-522; 16 USC 1361, *et seq.*
- (v) Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, P.L. 92-532; 33 USC 1401, *et seq.*
- (w) Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1928; 16 USC 715.
- (x) Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; 16 USC 703, *et seq.*

- (y) National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, P.L. 91-190; 42 USC 4321, *et seq.* (Also known as NEPA.)
- (z) National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, P.L. 89-655; 16 USC 470a, *et seq.*
- (aa) Native American Religious Freedom Act, P.L. 95-341; 42 USC 1996, *et seq.*
- (bb) Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, P.L. 94-580; 7 USC 1010, *et seq.*
- (cc) River and Harbor Act of 1899, 33 USC 403, *et seq.* (Also known as the Refuse Act of 1899.)
- (dd) Submerged Lands Act of 1953, P.L. 82-3167; 43 USC 1301, *et seq.*
- (ee) Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1977, P.L. 95-89; 30 USC 1201, *et seq.*
- (ff) Toxic Substances Control Act, P.L. 94-469; 15 USC 2601, *et seq.*
- (gg) Water Resources Planning Act, 42 USC 1962 *et seq.*
- (hh) Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, as amended, P.L. 83-566; 16 USC 1001, *et seq.*
- (ii) Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended, P.L. 90-542; 16 USC 1271, *et seq.*

## **2. EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

- (a) Executive Order 11593, Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment. May 13, 1979 (36 FR 8921; May 15, 1971).
- (b) Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management. May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26951; May 25, 1977).
- (c) Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands. May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26961; May 25, 1977).
- (d) Executive Order 11514, Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality, March 5, 1970, as amended by Executive Order, 11991, May 24, 1977.
- (e) Executive Order 12088, Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards, October 13, 1978.
- (f) Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, July 14, 1982.
- (g) Executive Order 12114, Environmental Affects Abroad of Major Federal Actions.
- (h) Executive Order 12856, Federal Compliance with Right-to-Know Laws and Pollution Prevention Requirements, August 3, 1993.
- (i) Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, February 11, 1994 (amended January 10, 1995).
- (j) Executive Order 13186, Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, January 11, 2001.

## **3. OTHER FEDERAL POLICIES**

- (a) Council on Environmental Quality Memorandum of August 11, 1980: Analysis of Impacts on Prime or Unique Agricultural Lands in Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act.
- (b) Council on Environmental Quality Memorandum of August 10, 1980: Interagency Consultation to Avoid or Mitigate Adverse Effects on Rivers in the National Inventory.

**TABLE 3: Coordination List**

Executive Director Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Old Post Office Building – Suite 809 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004-2590	Director Ecology and Conservation Office 14 <sup>th</sup> and Constitution Avenue – NW HCBC PSP/EC, Room 6117 Washington, DC 20230	Federal Maritime Commission ATTN: Office of the Secretary 800 N. Capital Street, NW Washington, DC 20573
Director of Project Assistance NEPA Division U.S. Department of Energy – Env. Guidance 100 Independence Ave., SW – Room 3G-092 Washington, DC 20585	Director Office of Environmental Project Review U.S. Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, NW (Mail Stop 2340) Washington, DC 20240	Special Programs Group (F16) Centers for Environmental Health and Disease 4770 Buford Highway, NE Atlanta, GA 30341-3724
Regional Forester USDA Forest Service Eastern Region (R9) 310 West Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53203	Audubon Society 6559 Engle Road Cleveland, OH 44142	State Chairman Ducks Unlimited 3755 Pine Meadow Road New Albany, OH 43054
Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration US Department of Transportation 200 N. High Street, Room 328 Columbus, OH 43215-2408	Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region 5 536 South Clark Street Chicago, IL 60605	League of Ohio Sportsman Affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation 3953 Indianola Avenue Columbus, OH 43214
Regional Director Midwest Region National Park Service 1709 Jackson Street Omaha, NE 68102	Midwest Resource Center Federal Highway Administration 19900 Governors Highway, Suite 301 Olympia Fields, OH 60461-1021	Corps of Engineers Liaison OH Department of Natural Resources Building D-4 Fountain Square 1952 Belcher Drive Columbus, OH 43224
Program Administrator OH Department of Natural Resources Real Estate and Land Management Building D-2 Fountain Square 1952 Belcher Drive Columbus, OH 43224	Director OH Department of Transportation Office of Environmental Services 1980 West Broad Street Columbus, OH 43223	Department Head Ohio Historic Preservation Office Resource Protection and Review Dept. 567 East Hudson Street Columbus, OH 43211-1030
Director Ohio Department of Health 246 North High Street Columbus, OH 43216-0118	Director Ohio Environmental Protection Agency PO Box 1049 Columbus, OH 43216-1049	Director Ohio Environmental Protection Agency District Office 2100 East Aurora Twinsburg, OH 44087-1969

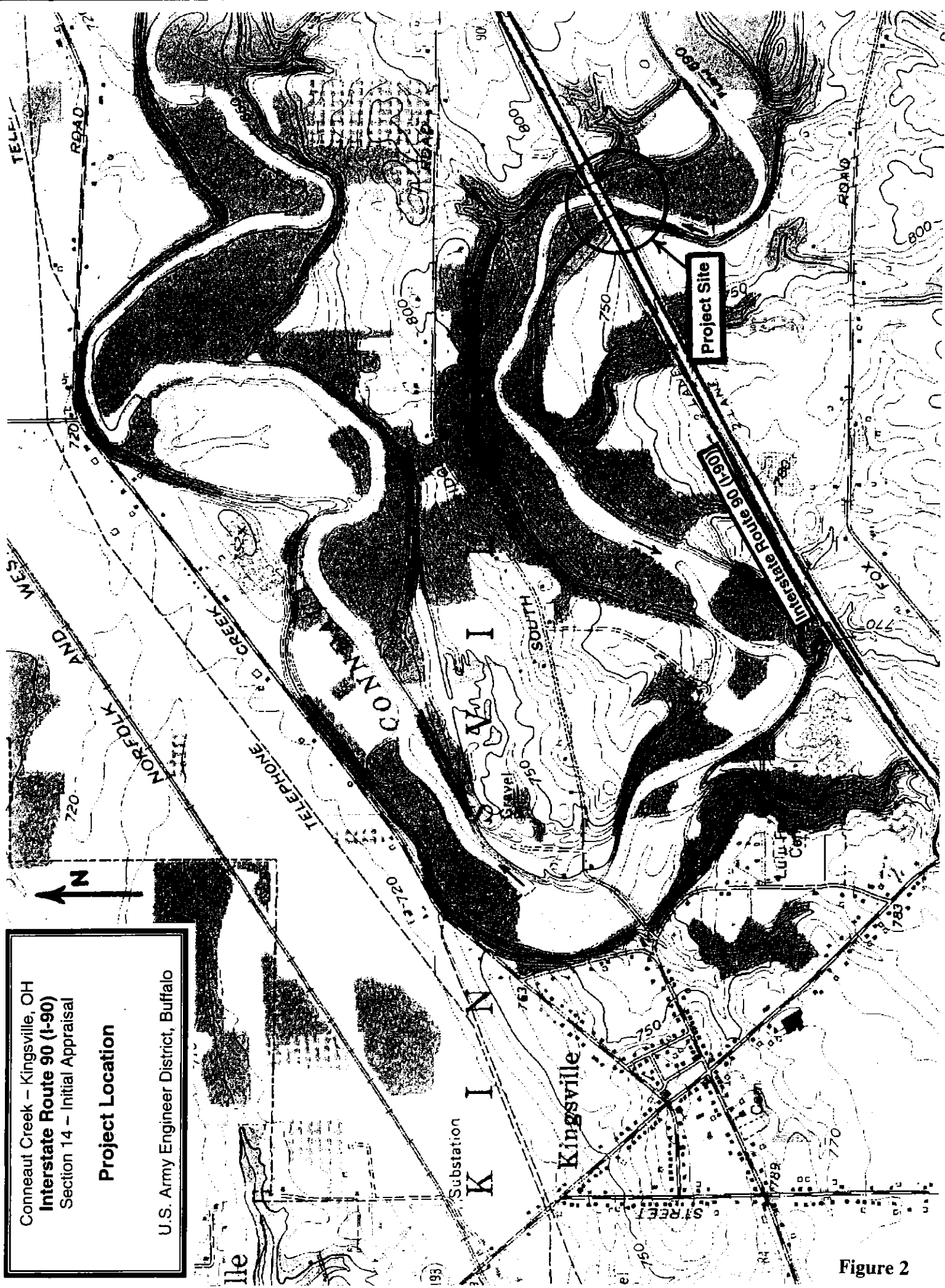
<p>Chief Review Branch USEPA – Region 5 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604-3590</p>	<p>Sierra Club 13677 Old Pleasant Valley Road Cleveland, OH 44130</p>	<p>Chairman Trout Unlimited – Ohio Council 1061 Nicholson Lakewood, OH 44107</p>
<p>Trout Unlimited Ohio McDonald and Company 2100 Central National Bank Building Cleveland, OH 44144</p>	<p>Field Supervisor Columbus Field Office US Fish and Wildlife Service 6950-H Americana Parkway Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-4115</p>	<p>State Executive Director USDA, Farm Service Agency 200 North High Street, Room 540 Columbus, OH 43215-2408</p>
<p>Environmental Officer US HUD, Region 5 – Columbus Office 200 North High Street Columbus OH 43215</p>	<p>State Conservationist USDA, NRCS 200 North High Street, Room 540 Columbus, OH 43215</p>	<p>Native American Alliance of Ohio PO Box 502 Thornville, OH 43076</p>
<p>Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 3826 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, OH 44115</p>	<p>Ashtabula County Commissioners Office, Federal Projects Office 25 West Jefferson Street Jefferson, OH 44047-1092</p>	<p>Ashtabula County Health Department 27 West Jefferson Street Jefferson, OH 44047</p>
<p>Director Ashtabula County Department of Planning and Community Services 25 West Jefferson Street Jefferson, OH 44047</p>	<p>District Conservationist Soil Conservation Service 39 Wall Street Jefferson, OH 44047</p>	<p>Kingsville Township 5450 Dibble Road Kingsville, OH 44048</p>
<p>NE Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Org. 969 Copely Road Akron, OH 44320</p>	<p>Mohamed Darwish, P.E. District Four Deputy Director Ohio Department of Transportation 705 Oakwood Street Ravenna, Ohio 44266</p>	<p>Edward Deley, Jr. District Four Environmental Coordinator Ohio Department of Transportation 705 Oakwood Street Ravenna, Ohio 44266</p>
<p>Brian S. Peck Ohio Department of Transportation 705 Oakwood Street Ravenna, Ohio 44266</p>	<p>Neal Miesle, Project Manager District Four Ohio Department of Transportation 705 Oakwood Street Ravenna, Ohio 44266</p>	





Figure 1: Regional Vicinity Map  
MapQuest.com, Inc. (2000)

Conneaut Creek at I-90: Section 14 Project  
Kingsville Township  
Ashtabula County, Ohio



Conneaut Creek - Kingsville, OH  
**Interstate Route 90 (I-90)**  
Section 14 - Initial Appraisal

**Project Location**

U.S. Army Engineer District, Buffalo

Figure 2

Conneaut Creek - Kingsville, OH  
**Interstate Route 90 (I-90)**  
 Section 14 - Initial Appraisal

**Site Elevation View**

U.S. Army Engineer District, Buffalo

Interstate Route 90 (I-90)

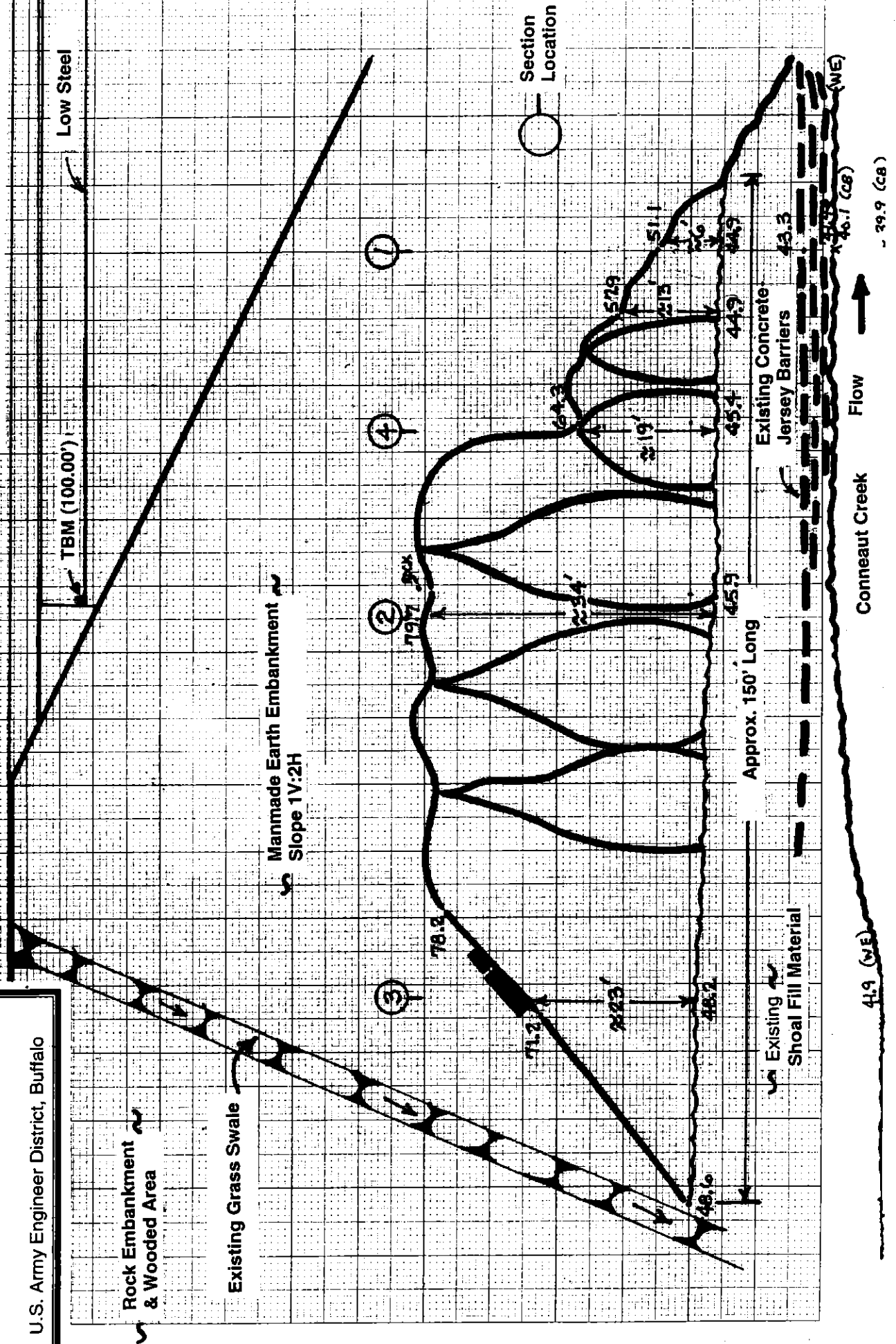
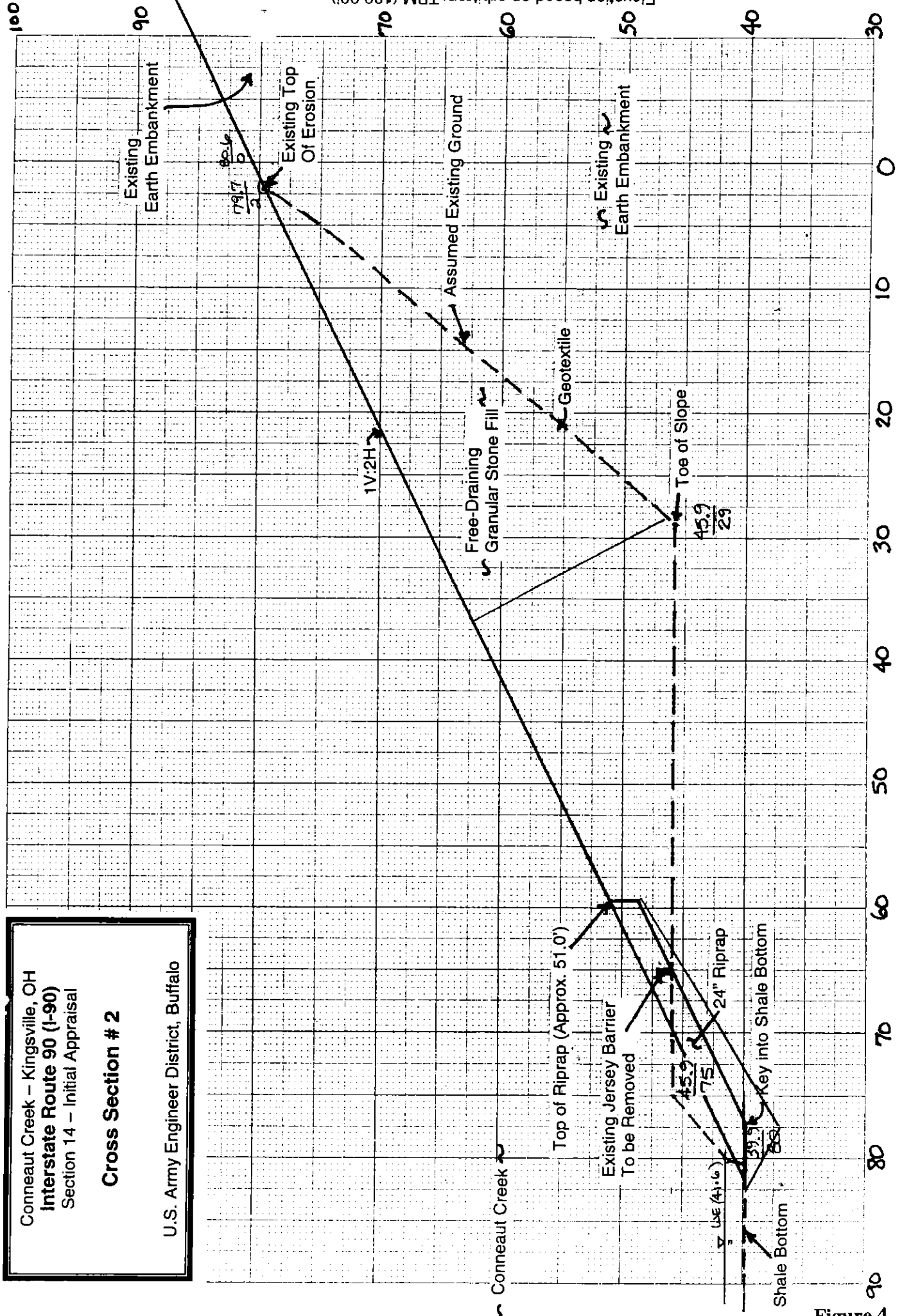


Figure 3



Conneaut Creek - Kingsville, OH  
**Interstate Route 90 (I-90)**  
 Section 14 - Initial Appraisal  
**Cross Section # 2**  
 U.S. Army Engineer District, Buffalo

Figure 4